## Prefix, Base Word, Suffix

A base word can stand alone and has meaning (for example, **help**). A suffix is a word part added to the end of a word (for example, **-ful**). If you add the suffix **-ful** to the base word, **help**, the word is **helpful**. A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a word or base word (for example, **un-**). If the prefix **un-** is added to **helpful**, the word is **unhelpful**.

- 1. Ask your child to read the word.
- 2. Ask your child to break the word into its word parts (prefix, base word, and suffix) and write the word parts.
- 3. Ask your child what the word means. If your child is unsure of the word meaning, explain the word to your child. Use it in a sentence and ask your child to try to use it in a sentence.
- 4. Use the blank table to create your own base words with prefixes and suffixes.

## Key

Word	Prefix	Base Word	Suffix
unhelpful	un	help	ful
undo	un	do	
personal		person	al
misuse	mis	use	
discolored	dis	color	ed
harmless		harm	less
trainer		train	er
unsure	un	sure	
remarkable	re	mark	able
fearless		fear	less

## **Example**

Word = Prefix + Base Word + Suffix
Unhelpful = un + help + ful

Word	Prefix + Base Word + Suffix				
unhelpful	un	_+_	help	_+_	ful
undo		_+_		_+_	
personal		+_		_+_	
misuse		_+_		_+_	
discolored		+_		_+_	
harmless		_+_		_+_	
trainer		+_		_+_	
unsure		_+_		_+_	
remarkable		+_		_+_	_
fearless		+_		_+_	

Word	Prefix + Base Word + Suffix		
unhelpful	<u>un</u>	+ help	_+ful
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+
		+	_+